

French and British Advance Over
Six Miles Along the Somme FrontAllied Troops Enter Combles
--Many Prisoners and Much
War Material Captured;
Rumanians Forging Ahead

British and French troops today reached the town of Combles on the Somme front, after having virtually pocketed the place in a struggle of many weeks' duration, and are fighting to gain complete possession of it. Attacking from the north, British troops have forced their way into the place, London reports, and are overcoming the German resistance there.

On the south the French have reached the town's edge and have penetrated the cemetery. In addition, they have further closed the small opening left in the Combles pocket by capturing all of the village of Fregicourt, a mile to the east.

The Combles salient has long been a serious hindrance to the allies, hampering them in their offensive toward Bapaume and Peronne.

Bombs dropped in last night's Zeppelin raid on England carried out by some half dozen of these German aircraft, caused the death of 23 persons, it was officially announced in London today.

While the battle on the Somme front was at its height, the Germans last night attacked the French lines at Verdun, driving in between the Thiaumont work and Fleury, east of the Meuse. Paris announces that the French guns were effective in checking the German assaults.

Berlin today admits an entente advance on the Somme front along the line for Guedecourt to Bouchavesnes, a distance of 6 1/2 miles. This line includes the Combles sector.

On the eastern front in the Carpathians Berlin concedes the successes of the Rumanians in forcing their way again into the Sauruk and Vulcan passes.

Rumanians Occupy Heights.
Berlin, Sept. 26, by wireless to Sayville.—Rumanian troops have again occupied the heights on the both sides of Sauruk and Vulcan passes in Transylvania, says the official statement today. German troops repulsed the passes, the announcement adds, but were withdrawn according to army orders.

Western Front: "Anglo-French infantry yesterday, which was prepared by an artillery bombardment, launched a uniform attack between the Ancre brook and the river Somme.

"Fighting which commenced at noon lasted during the night.

"At the Ancre and Eaucourt l'Abbaye the hostile thrust was stifled by our fire or broke down before our lines.

"Successes were obtained by the enemy east of Eaucourt l'Abbaye and the conquest of the villages on the line of Guedecourt-Bouchavesnes must be recognized.

"Near Bouchavesnes and further southward so far as the Somme, French charges, repeated many times, failed."

**GREAT DAY ON
SOMME FRONT**

**Correspondent Sees Most
Splendid of All Attacks in
Great Western Offensive.**

CHORUS OF HELL

**Great Armies Now Fighting in
the Open—Germans Dig
Trenches Under Fire.**

British Front in France, Sept. 25.—Via London, Sept. 26, 6:58 a. m.—This has been another great day for the Anglo-French forces on the Somme. As a spectacle for the observer, it was the most splendid of all the attacks made by the allied forces since the commencement of the doing it, the positions they held and sought to conquer in the team play of the blue French legions and the khaki-clad brigades of Britain were comprehensible to the eye in the glorious autumn sunlight for a sweep of 10 miles.

The scene had the intoxication of war's grandeur—if war can be said to have any grandeur.

Tonight the British have taken half of Morval, all of Lesbouff and have advanced their line on a front of 8,000 yards; the French have stormed Rancourt and have pushed their line to the outskirts of the little village of Fregicourt, a mile east and a little north of Combles. The German

stronghold of Combles is virtually isolated.

Correspondent on Battlefield.
The correspondent of the Associated Press went forward yesterday over the ridge in the Devil's wood and Ginchy region, which the British had fought for over two months to gain.

He walked for two miles through an area which reverberated to the blasts of the great guns, picking his way between the bursts of flame from the crashing batteries and moving around the rows of cannon as one who seeks a ford in a stream. On the other side of the ridge he saw guns where he never had seen before—on the promised land of the lower levels which the British had won by persistent fight within the Combles pocket.

On his return the correspondent decided that he would not pass through that wilderness of British guns of all sizes and caliber while he had any hearing left. Every one of them was firing at top speed. He chose a gallery which took him past many batteries which for two miles were pouring out their share of the raging tempest of gunfire. From the ruins of some old German trenches, whence the battle panorama stretched before him, the correspondent had a new view of the French gunners who were feeding shells into the gun breeches as grain is fed into a threshing machine and with the mechanical precision of automatons.

Chorus of Hell.
Shortly after noon was the time chosen for the infantry to rush forward under the cover of a final intensive chorus of hell from the artillery. The ridges in front and on either hand were flecked with raising sparks of flame. Within an hour, at least, fifty thousand shells must have been fired with wining sibilant roar.

Spontaneous. Far to the south was Mont St. Quentin, two miles from Peronne, and commanding that town which the allied commanders say, will fall like a ripe plum when the time comes. The hill lay hazy above the green foliage of the river valley in the midst of vast bursts of black smoke from shells of enormous caliber. Directly in front was Combles, another town which has come to mean much to the imagination of the public in England and France, who seem to regard its capture of vital significance. Combles differed from all the villages in sight, in that the walls of many of its buildings were still standing. It was different, too, in the fact that it formed an oasis in the midst of the storm of battle. Neither artillery nor infantry paid any attention to it. The gauge of battle was the high ground around it, the possession of which means the command of the town. Farther north lay the ruins of Ginchy and Guillemont.

Infantry Surges Forward.
At the appointed time, the waves of infantry surged forward to the attack. Then the tremendous thunder of the German guns swelled to their utmost volume until the whole field was lost in vast clouds of smoke. The attacking infantry reached another goal and that another village was taken. A man at a telephone in a nearby signal station called out the capture of the different strong points with the enthusiasm of one who scores a hotly contested game.

British Wounded Brought.
Presently the British wounded began to straggle back and their bearing, as they moved along beside their prisoners, was another criterion by which the correspondent knew how the day had gone without making inquiries of the staff. The German machine guns had stopped them for a while at some points, but generally, reports told of every position being taken on the minute set in the program. The British wounded said that of course they got there as they were used to getting there.

Fighting in the Open.
Their great gratification was that it was becoming an even fight since the Germans had no more prepared lines but both armies were fighting in the open. According to the British officers, the Germans on the fighting front have no longer any trenches except those which are dug under fire.

REGIMENT GOES TO EL PASO.
Morehead City, N. C., Sept. 26.—The Second regiment, North Carolina guard, entrained today for El Paso.

BRITISH FORCES
ENTER COMBLES

Resistance of Germans Being
Overcome and Strongly
Fortified Position Lost.

COSTLY ALLIED EFFORT

Combined Effort of French
and British Renders Enemy
Position Untenable.

London, Sept. 26, 2 p. m.—The British have entered Combles on the Somme front, the war office announced today, and are overcoming the resistance of the Germans.

Combles, a town of some 2000 population before the war, had been rendered of small strategic importance to the allies by their long continued encircling movement. It has been of notable value to the Germans, however, because as long as they clung to it the Franco-British freedom of action in pushing their offensive movements toward Bapaume and Peronne on either side of it was hampered. Turned into a strongly fortified position by German defensive ingenuity, it has persistently held fast like a rock in the course of a turbulent stream that has had to be blasted loose before the channel was fully opened up.

Allied Effort Costly.
This process has only been accomplished by long continued, severe and costly effort on the part of the allies. Driving in from the south, the French successively swept by Hardcourt, Maurepas, Leforest and finally reached Fregicourt, a mile west of Combles. More slowly but none the less surely the British have pushed their advance on the north of the German salient. Their struggles to reach and hold Ginchy and Guillemont were expensive in time and men, but finally the ground north of Combles and some distance to the east was occupied, putting the town in a pocket of which the opening was constantly being narrowed by the drives of the entente armies.

Combined Attack Made.
Yesterday came the combined effort of the French and British to close the opening or at least render it so narrow that what could be extracted through it by the Germans would not be worth while. Only two roads remained over which the Germans could withdraw their men and guns. The single track railroad running through the place had long since been rendered useless.

Attacking from the north, General Haig's forces pushed to, and occupied Morval, cutting the northerly road running to Le Transloy.

Striking from the south the French pushed their line to Fregicourt, severing towards Sully. The gap between Morval and Fregicourt a mile and a half in width and reaching back toward Combles, was swept from either direction by the combined fire of French and British guns.

It is not thought probable that any considerable force of Germans remained in Combles. During the day yesterday when it was becoming evident that the allied forces were achieving their object of closing in east of the town, the Germans are reported to have begun withdrawing guns from it.

More than 1,500 prisoners, taken in the fighting of the last 24 hours, have already been counted, and a large amount of war material has been captured. The announcement follows:

"Yesterday's operations were entirely successful. The preparation of an execution of the attack by the infantry by the infantry and the co-operation between them were in all respects admirable.

"More than 1,500 prisoners already have passed through the collecting stations and more are arriving. Much war material has been captured, but the amount cannot yet be estimated.

"Further progress has been made during the night and this morning.

"A strong redoubt which had held out between Les Boeufs and Guedecourt has been completely and the garrison made prisoners.

"Our troops entered Combles from the west and are overcoming the enemy's resistance. The enemy's losses were very severe."

Anglo-French Successes.
Berlin, Sept. 26, by wireless to Sayville.—Successes were achieved by the

Anglo-French forces on the Somme last night to the east of Eaucourt l'Abbaye, north of Fleury, says the official statement issued by the German army headquarters today. The conquest of the villages on the line of Guedecourt-Bouchavesnes, the statement adds, must be recognized.

French Enter Combles.
Paris, Sept. 26, 12:15 p. m.—Continuing their offensive north of the Somme, the French last night captured all of the village of Fregicourt and penetrated the Combles cemetery.

A French reconnoitering party reached the southern border of Combles, says today's official announcement. Eight hundred unwounded prisoners were taken in the fighting of yesterday on the Somme front.

"Violent counter attacks were made by the Germans last night on the Verdun front between Thiaumont work and Fleury. These assaults were checked by the French artillery and rifle fire.

**HUGHES MAKING
TRAIN SPEECHES**

Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 26.—Charles E. Hughes, reaching Toledo in a pouring rain today, held a public reception lasting an hour, made a short speech at an automobile factory, afterwards addressed a theater audience and after a stay of three and one-half hours departed for Cleveland. The nominee's voice was in better condition than it had been for several days.

Enroute to Toledo from Dayton, Mr. Hughes made rear platform addresses at Findley and at Bowling Green.

**TRAPPED IN HOTEL
WITH A WOMAN**

Chicago, Sept. 26.—Edward R. West, vice president of the C. D. Gregg Tea & Coffee company of New York and Chicago, admitted today that he was the "A. R. Wesley" who was trapped in a New York hotel with "Alice Wilcox" by representatives of the international band of Mann act blackmailers now held by federal authorities. After being taken prisoner to Chicago he was mulcted of \$15,000 on the strength of a fake federal warrant.

**NET INCREASE OF
S. P. COMPANY**

Increase of 50.14 Per Cent
Over Net Receipts of
Last Year.

New York, Sept. 26.—A gain of 50.14 percent in net income is reported by the Southern Pacific company in its detailed report for the fiscal year ended June 30 last, that item increasing from \$29,570,319 to \$39,855,254.

The gross income increased from \$49,647,992 to \$59,393,006, an increase of 21.64 percent, and net revenue from railway operations increased from \$42,111,833 to \$55,520,570, a net gain of 31.20 percent.

Benefitted by Exposition.
The Southern Pacific company was materially benefited by the heavy travel to the San Francisco exposition and derived additional income from its holdings of stock in other railroads, as well as various other properties, including the Associated Oil company of California.

The company's investments of \$689,918,652 show an increase of \$16,292,999 over the previous year, these including stocks, bonds and notes. Its current liabilities of \$19,388,707 are but slightly increased over the previous year.

Gross Earnings.
Its gross earnings of \$152,694,228 are the largest in the history of the company, surpassing the previous record of 1913 by \$9,919,523, and a gain over 1915 of \$22,828,553.

Kruttschnitt Reviews Year.
In his review of the year's operations, Chairman Julius Kruttschnitt says:

"The interruption of steamship service through the Panama canal since September 18, 1915, has minimized sea competition and has restored to our company's lines the freight which had been diverted from them by the frequent steamship service through the Panama canal during the previous year and by the low rates then prevailing. Nearly all the steamers which had operated through the canal found more profitable employment in consequence of the increased demand for steamship tonnage owing to the European war and they have not been restored to regular service between Atlantic and Pacific ports since the re-opening of the canal.

"Upon the return of normal conditions, however, it may safely be assumed that the intense competition of the steamship lines will be encountered again."

LARGE CROWD
HEARS LANDRITH

Wilson and Hughes Target of
Prohibition Campaigners at
Trinidad, Colorado.

ASHAMED OF COUNTRY

Republican Nominee Has
Crossed Continent and Accomplished Nothing Except the Crossing.

Trinidad, Colo., Sept. 26.—President Wilson and Charles E. Hughes again became the target of the Prohibition campaigners today when the first Colorado meeting was held here from the rear of the special coast-to-coast train. The crowd was large because Colorado is dry.

"I read in the papers today," Ira Landrith, the Prohibition vice-presidential candidate said, "that Mr. Wilson, in a speech at Baltimore yesterday, said that the only thing he ever had been ashamed of in America was in its timidity in the face of foreign competition."

"Thousands of persons today are ashamed that the government is in partnership with the liquor traffic, and I am ashamed that the government has free, easy partnership with a business which destroys 100,000 persons every year, that sends 50,000 girls into scarlet, that purchases and owns politicians and newspapers and that we are afraid to destroy because we need the money."

"So this morning I could not vote for a man who says he is only ashamed of the fact that we are too timid to compete for foreign commerce."

"And while I am saying that, I might say the same thing for Hughes, for, as far as I can see, he is ashamed of nothing. He has just completed a trip across the country and all that he has accomplished is the crossing. We now sing, as we used to about the old cow: 'Mr. Hughes has crossed the road because he crossed the road.'"

**FAIRBANKS TO
TALK IN OMAHA**

Vice-Presidential Candidate
Leaves for Colorado at Mid-
night on Western Cam-
paign Tour.

Paris, Sept. 26, 12:15 p. m.—On the western end of the Macedonian front east of Florina, the Bulgarians last night made violent counter attacks. Today's official announcement says the assaults were checked by the French. West of Florina the Russians and French made a combined attack and took fifty prisoners.

Between the Struma and the Vardar there was artillery fighting, together with some skirmishing, especially on the British front. No infantry actions developed in the sector held by the Serbians.

**VILLISTA BAND
MOVING NORTH**

Garrison at Namiquipa Pre-
paring to Head Off Dash
of Outlaws.

American Expeditionary Head-
quarters Somewhere in Mexico via Radio to Columbus, N. M., Sept. 26.—Villista and his band is moving towards north according to reports received today at headquarters, which is described as being from very reliable sources.

The bandits are reported to have crossed the railroad at San Andres where they had a slight skirmish with Carranza troops.

The garrison at Namiquipa presumably is preparing to attempt to prevent Villista's dash northward. General Garza and General Ramos are said to be in pursuit of Villista in the vicinity of San Andres. The Carranza authorities at Matamoros have ordered the confiscation of all horses suitable for military purposes to engage in the pursuit of Villista.

Information from Carranza sources places the strength of the Villista band at two hundred.

Villista Not in Fight.
Washington, Sept. 26.—Confidential reliable advices, it was announced at

NOTED ECONOMIST
SEES SOCIALISTS
AS GERMAN RULERS

Charles P. Steinmetz.

Charles P. Steinmetz, famous German economist who was driven to the United States because of his advanced views, is predicting the decline of monarchism in Germany and the rise of socialism. He says that in exchange for aid in the war the Social Democratic party is demanding and receiving the socialization of successive phases of industry.

the state department, show that Villista was not present during the Hidalgo day fighting at Chihuahua City, that no arms or ammunition were captured by the bandits, and that there were no desertions from the Carranza garrison.

Secretary Lansing said the advices bore out statements by Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, regarding the affair. The source of the department's information was not disclosed.

Representations have been made by the state department to the Carranza government in behalf of Burton Vanzelos, who is on his way to the island of Crete, is expected to arrive at Suba bay on the north coast of that island, this evening or early tomorrow, proceeding thence to Cananea to address a proclamation to the people of Greece, stating the reasons for his departure from Athens and summoning King Constantine to head a movement to put Greece by the side of the entente.

National bank shares dropped 115 francs today.

It is thought this evening's cabinet meeting will decide to drop two members of the present ministry, M. Rouffas, minister of the interior, and M. Vokotopoulos, minister of justice.

Proposal to Entente.
Athens, Sept. 25, via London, Sept. 26, 3:30 a. m.—(Delayed).—The Greek government today submitted to representatives of the entente a proposal that Greece drop her policy of neutrality on condition only that she be accorded a loan sufficient to pay for the mobilization and equipment of the army.

Paris, Sept. 26, 2:30 p. m.—The revolutionary movement is spreading in Greek Macedonia, in Crete, the Aegean islands and in Epirus, says a Havas dispatch from Athens today.

**BRITISH SURGEONS
TREAT THOUSANDS**

Paris, Sept. 26.—British surgeons have treated 16,000 cases and performed 463 operations on civilian patients in the zones of their armies in France since the beginning of the war. They had not only to treat all the current ills of the region, but were required to combat the epidemics that follow war. All the inhabitants of the British zone were vaccinated against typhoid and special hospitals were created for children.

A considerable number of civilians wounded by shell fire also require their attention.

TWENTY-NINE
KILLED IN RAID

Seven Zeppelins Attack Eng-
lish Industrial Centers,
Wreck Homes and
Cause Deaths.

DRIVEN OFF BY GUNS

Forty-Seven Aerial Combats
Occur on Somme Front—
Five German Flyers
Brought Down.

London, Sept. 26, 12:30 p. m.—Twenty-nine persons were killed in last night's Zeppelin raid, it was announced officially today.

"The statement follows: 'Seven airships raided England last night and in the early hours of this morning. The districts attacked were the south coast, the east coast, the northwest coast and the north midlands. The principal attack was aimed against the industrial centers in the last mentioned area.'"

"Up to the present time no damage to factories or works of military importance has been reported. It is regretted, however, that a number of small houses and cottages were wrecked or damaged at some places and twenty-nine deaths have been reported."

"No attempt was made to approach London. The raiders were engaged by our anti-aircraft defenses and were driven off from several large industrial centers."

"The first airship was finally destroyed by an aeroplane after having passed successfully through gunfire. The second airship was hit by gunfire from the second London defenses and was forced to descend in Essex through lost gas."

"Owing to deaths from injuries having occurred and the casualties not having been reported by the police immediately, some amendment must be made to the list of casualties caused during Sunday night's raid."

The corrected figures follow:

"Killed: 23 men; 13 women; 3 children; total 39.

"Injured: 56 men, 43 women and 26 children; total 125.

"Last night's raid total casualties so far reported are:

"Killed 36, injured 23.

"Very slight damage was done of military importance."

Paris, Sept. 26, 12:15 p. m.—On the Somme front yesterday there were 47 aerial engagements. Five German aeroplanes were brought down and others were badly damaged.

Zeppelin Raiders Identified.
London, Sept. 26, 3:15 p. m.—It was officially announced today that the identity of the two Zeppelins brought down in the raid on the night of September 23-24 had been determined.

The statement follows:

"It is not established that the two airships brought down on Thursday were the naval Zeppelins L-32 and L-33 both of very recent construction."

**STEAMER FOUNDERS
IN LAKE ONTARIO**

Oswego, N. Y., Sept. 26.—Six members of the crew of the steamer Roberval of Ottawa were drowned when the vessel was overwhelmed by the sea during a storm and foundered in Lake Ontario, nine miles from here yesterday, it was learned here today when three members of the crew reached here exhausted in a lifeboat. The boat was partly filled with water and the bow was cut off. They said they had been afloat for nine hours.

**ALLEGED MURDERER
FINALLY CAUGHT**

Birmingham, Ala., Sept. 26.—David D. Overton, accused of the murder of Probate Judge W. T. Lawler in Huntsville last June, was arrested today by detectives at Smithville, Tenn.

The murder of Judge Lawler in June, ended the climax of Lawler's political troubles in Huntsville and is generally believed to have been responsible for two suicides in the town shortly afterwards. The state militia was called out at one time and remained in Huntsville two weeks.

Overton disappeared from his home June 17 and the search for him has been prosecuted over the entire south and in Canada.

WILSON CASTS BALLOT.
Princeton, N. J., Sept. 26.—President Wilson came to his old home here today to vote in the New Jersey primaries. He arrived over from Shadow Lawn, motored here just before noon and remained only long enough to cast his ballot.